

ERIE-NIAGARA REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

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Co-Chairs:

Hon. Clyde Burmaster
Hon. William A. Pauly

MEMORANDUM

To: ENRP Chairs Burmaster & Pauly
From: ENRP Government Affairs Subcommittee Chair Gerald Meal
Re: April & May, 2001 subcommittee meetings
Date: March 30, 2001

The Erie-Niagara Regional Partnership's Government Affairs Subcommittee met April 25 and May 22, 2001 at Christino's at the Amherst Marriott. Present for the April meeting were Subcommittee members Meal, Lehman, McMahon, and Weinstein. Present for the May meeting was member Lehman, along with ENRP members Morse and Weinstein.

As a result of the concept approval granted at the March general meeting, Buffalo Niagara Enterprise President Tom Kucharski presented the details for the bi-county site preparation and readiness study. BNE will do most of the data collection to free up time for the consultant to do more of the evaluation work. To that end BNE has assigned a staff person to the project. The cost will be capped at \$75,000 for Erie County and \$25,000 for Niagara County. Any additional costs will be absorbed by the BNE. **The ENRP Government Affairs Subcommittee recommends that the Erie and Niagara County Legislatures approve funding for the Buffalo Niagara Enterprise site preparation and readiness study.**

The other major topic discussed was the recreation of some sort of Erie Niagara Regional Planning Board. Some history on the old model was shared, including reasons and theories for its demise. Some possible lead agents for the new model were discussed including the MPO, BNE, a new entity, the counties' planning departments, or the ENRP itself. ENRP staff is currently proceeding with data collection and analysis on other communities' models. **The ENRP Government Affairs Subcommittee is requesting additional guidance on this topic from the ENRP.**

Members: Hon. John Connolly * Hon. Albert DeBenedetti * Mr. Thomas Dziedzic * Mr. Brian Eldridge * Hon. Bradley Erck * Mr. Samuel Ferraro * Hon. John Greenan * Mr. Clyde Johnston * Mr. Thomas Kucharski * Ms. Maria Lehman * Hon. Peter McMahon * Hon. Gerald Meal * Mr. Robert Miller * Hon. Sean O'Connor * Hon. Crystal Peoples * Mr. Lawrence Rubin * Mr. David Rutecki * Mr. Kevin Schuler * Mr. John Simon * Hon. Robert Villani * Hon. Barry Weinstein, M.D. * Mr. Peter Wendel * Ad Hoc: Ms. Cyd Bennett, Mr. Richard Geiger, Mr. Luke Rich, Mr. Stan Rydelek